

# Water Recycling in California

## The Role of the California Department of Public Health

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# California Dept of Public Health

Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management

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- Primary role is the regulation of Public Water Systems
- Recycled water is other important role
- Field Operations Branch (North & South)
  - 22 District field offices statewide
- Technical Programs Branch
  - Recycled Water Unit

# California Department of Public Health

- Sets standards for municipal wastewater reuse to protect public health
  - “Water Recycling Criteria” in Title 22 of California Code of Regulations
- These regulations specify treatment and use requirements for various recycled water uses
  - Landscape Irrigation
  - Agricultural Irrigation
  - Cooling towers & other industrial uses
  - Dual plumbed (toilet flushing & residential)

# California Dept of Public Health Role

- Technical Operations Branch Recycled Water Unit provides technical assistance and review of new technologies
- District offices provide comments and recommendations to Regional Water Quality Control Boards for protection of public health on specific projects
- RWQCBs have permitting and ongoing oversight authority for Recycled Water

# CDPH Roles – Recycled Water

- Reviews recycled water proposals for compliance with Title 22 Criteria
- Collects fees from project applicants for CDPH reviews
- Any recycled water requirements that CDPH has adopted thru regulations must be incorporated in the permits issued by the SWRCB or RWQCBs
- If a use does not have regulatory requirements, then its requirements are determined on a case-by-case basis by the SWRCB/RWQCBs with recommendations from CDPH.
- Coordinates with other agencies
- Interfaces with recycled water industry
- Develops guidance and training materials for CDPH staff
- Reviews new and emerging technologies

# CDPH – SWRCB - RWQCB

- Due to the potential for confusion and duplication of effort between CDPH and RWQCBs, CDPH and SWRCB signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in 1996
- MOA delineates responsibilities of each agency in review and approval of RW projects
- Submission of engineering report to RWQCB is considered a “request” for CDPH review
- CDPH requirements for permit approval need to be incorporated in RWQCB permit
- CDPH will meet with RWQCB staff and attend RWQCB hearings as necessary to explain any CDPH requirements or recommendations

# Is it a Recycled Water Project?

- “Recycled water”--water which, as a result of treatment of *waste*, is suitable for a *direct beneficial use* or a controlled use that would not otherwise occur....
- Direct Beneficial Use - The use of recycled water which has been transported from the point of production to the point of use without an intervening discharge to waters of the state....
- CDPH has adopted regulatory requirements for recycled water that is from municipal wastewater (domestic sewage) only.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **CDPH Recycled Water website:**
- [http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/environhealth/waterB/Pages/Water\\_recycling.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/environhealth/waterB/Pages/Water_recycling.aspx)
- **CDPH Recycled Water staff**
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- Or your local CDPH district office





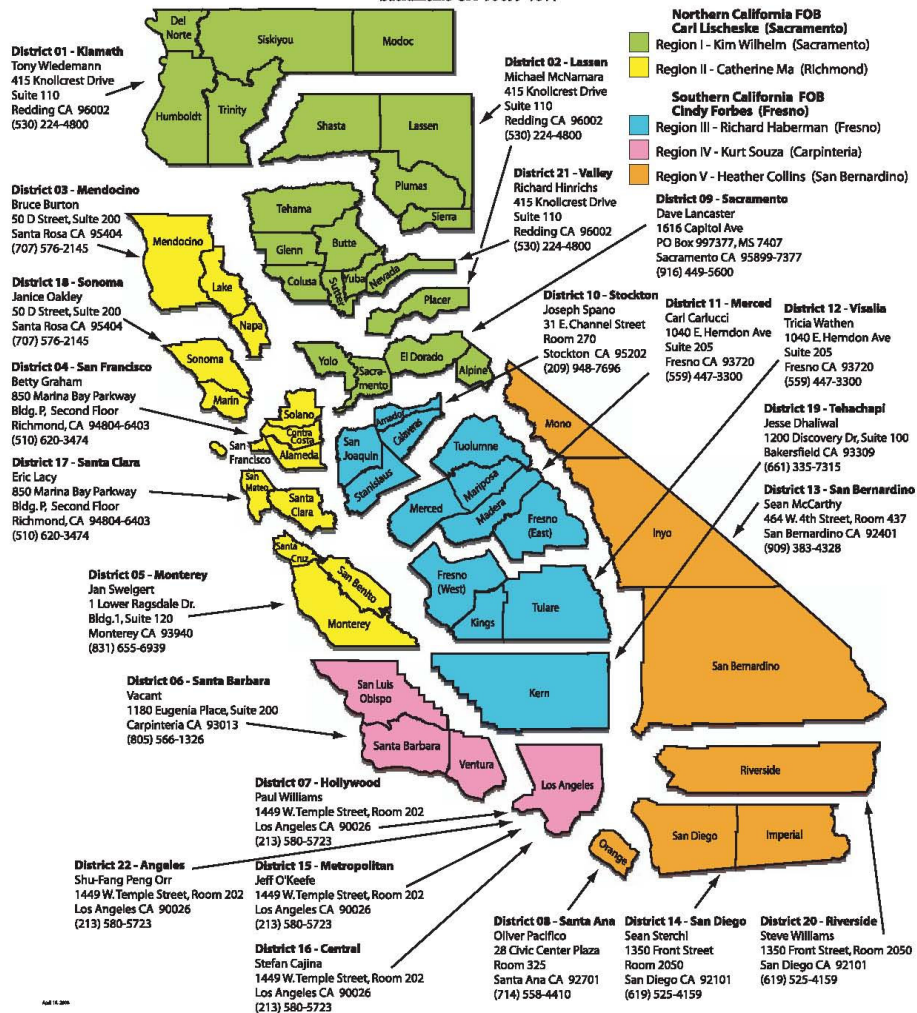
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# Thank You

## Questions?

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